

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12934 091312Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02 AID-20 TRSE-00 XMB-07

DRC-01 L-03 /075 W

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R 091032Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5126

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, LE

SUBJECT: GOL REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL EXPERT TO EVALUATE DAM PROJECT

REF: BEIRUT 12416

1. THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF THE MINISTER FOR HYDRAULIC AND ELECTRIC RESOURCES, THE GOL HAS ONCE MORE (REFTEL) REQUESTED THE SERVICES OF A US TECHNICAL EXPERT. THE PRESENT REQUEST CONCERNS THE EVALUATION OF A PROJECT CALLING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 60 METER-HIGH DAM TO CONTAIN A CAPACITY OF 50 MILLION CUBIC METERS OF WATER IN AN AREA NEAR PRESIDENT FRANGIEH'S NATIVE VILLAGE OF ZAGORTA. AN ITALIAN FIRM HAS APPARENTLY ALREADY BEEN TENTATIVELY AWARDED THE CONTRACT TO CONSTRUCT THIS DAM, BUT THE GOL FEELS THAT THE SERVICES OF A COMPETENT, IMPARTIAL EXPERT SHOULD BE SOUGHT BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER.

2. THE GOL WOULD OF COURSE BE PREPARED TO PAY THE FEES AND TRAVEL EXPENSES OF THE EXPERT. IT HAS IN MIND SOMEONE FROM THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OF PERHAPS THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BUT IS FLEXIBLE AS TO CHOICE. IT WOULD PREFER, HOWEVER, A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT AT LEAST ONE US PRIVATE FIRM WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN THE BIDDING.

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3. WE CONSIDER THAT THE WILLINGNESS OF THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES
TO CONTINUE TO HAVE RECOURSE TO THE US FOR COMPETENT AND
IMPARTIAL TECHNICAL EXPERTISE EVEN UNDER THE PRESENT TRYING
CIRCUMSTANCES REFLECTS A TENDENCY THAT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED
AND RECOMMEND THEREFORE THAT WE LEND OUR FULL SUPPORT AND
ASSISTANCE IN MEETING THIS REQUEST.
BUFFUM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, ELECTRIC GENERATORS, ELECTRIC POWER, CONSULTANTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, DAMS, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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